

## CLAIMS

We claim:

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Sub 9 3
1. A method of cleaning a pressurized container, the method comprising the steps of:  
providing a pressurized container containing an amount of anhydrous ammonia wherein the container has inlet and outlet valves;  
injecting a quantity of heated nitrogen gas into the container to form a nitrogen/anhydrous ammonia mixture; and  
venting the nitrogen/anhydrous ammonia mixture to the flare; and  
repeating the injection of the container with heated nitrogen gas and venting the mixture to a flare until the concentration of anhydrous ammonia is less than or equal to about 10,000 ppm.
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2. The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:  
providing a natural gas inlet for feeding natural gas to a burn ring within the flare;  
feeding the nitrogen/anhydrous ammonia mixture to the burn ring.
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3. The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:  
providing a blower for flowing air into the flare; and  
blowing air into the flare via the blower to aid in the burning of the anhydrous ammonia.
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4. The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:  
visually looking for leaks in the container;  
providing a housing having a cover on the container having a plurality of valves therein and a plurality of sideports for access to the interior of the housing;  
sampling the interior of the housing via the sideport for a quantity of anhydrous ammonia via a chemical detecting instrument for leaks; and  
removing the cover of the housing to inspect the interior of the housing for leaks.
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5. The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:  
weighing the container; and
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comparing the weight of the container to a tare weight of the container to determine a weight of the anhydrous ammonia therein.

6. The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

providing a nitrogen tank having nitrogen contained therein;

attaching a nitrogen line between the nitrogen tank and a first valve of the container;

heating a portion of the nitrogen line to heat nitrogen contained within the nitrogen line; and

attaching a flare line between the container and the flare.

7. The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

sampling a quantity of anhydrous ammonia in vapor form to determine a concentration of vapor within the container; and

verifying the identity of the anhydrous ammonia within the container.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein the nitrogen gas is heated to between 100°F and 300°F.

9. The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

inspecting the container for leaks via a leak detection apparatus; and

stopping the cleaning of the container if a leak is found having a concentration of at least 50 ppm.

10. The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

injecting the heated nitrogen into the container via a liquid valve on the container; and

venting the gas within the container to the flare via one of the valves.

11. A method of cleaning a pressurized container, the method comprising the steps of:

providing a pressurized container an amount of anhydrous ammonia wherein the container has a plurality of valves;

injecting a quantity of heated nitrogen gas into the container to form a nitrogen/anhydrous ammonia mixture;

venting the nitrogen/anhydrous ammonia mixture to a flare; and

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providing a housing having a cover and an interior space wherein a plurality of  
es are contained within the interior space;

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removing the cover to inspect the interior space of the housing for leaks.

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comparing the weight of the container to a tare weight of the container to determine a weight of the anhydrous ammonia therein.

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attaching a nitrogen line between a nitrogen tank and a first valve of the container;

attaching a flare line between the container and a flare.

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sampling a quantity of anhydrous ammonia contained in the headspace of the container to determine a concentration of the anhydrous ammonia within the headspace.

5 18. The method of claim 11 wherein the nitrogen gas is heated to between 100°F and 300°F.

19. The method of claim 11 further comprising the steps of:

injecting the heated nitrogen into the container via a liquid valve on the container; and

10 venting the nitrogen/anhydrous ammonia mixture within the container to the flare via a vapor valve on the container.

20. The method of claim 11 further comprising the steps of:

injecting the container with steam after the concentration of the anhydrous ammonia therein is about 50 ppm;

removing the pressure plate on the container; and

15 entering the container and cleaning debris from the container.

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